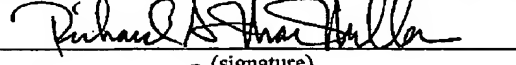
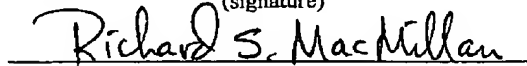


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
MARK W. KIEHL)	Group Art Unit 3726
)	
Serial No. 10/600,960)	Examiner Eric B. Compton
)	
Filed: June 20, 2003)	Confirmation No. 6584
)	
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A)	Attorney Docket 1-24583
VEHICLE FRAME COMPONENT BY)	
HIGH VELOCITY HYDROFORMING)	

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Honorable Sir:

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected independent Claim 13 as being obvious in view of the combined teachings of the Marando and Kosaka references. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 13 defines the invention as a method of manufacturing a vehicle frame assembly. Initially, a first vehicle frame member is provided by (1) positioning a hollow member within a die cavity defined by a die, (2) filling the